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International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In resolution 67/180, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its sixty-eighth session, a report on the status of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the implementation of the resolution. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request.

In a note verbale dated 24 April 2013, the Secretary-General invited Governments to transmit any information pertaining to the implementation of resolution 67/180. Replies have been received from the Governments of Argentina, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Lebanon, Maldives, Montenegro, Spain, Switzerland and Uruguay. Their responses are summarized in the present report.

The present report also includes information on the activities carried out in relation to the implementation of the resolution by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

* A/68/150.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 67/180, on the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its sixty-eighth session, a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the resolution. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request.

2. On 24 April 2013, the Secretary-General invited Member States to transmit relevant information pertaining to the implementation of the resolution. As at 15 July 2013, replies were received from the Governments of Argentina, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Lebanon, Maldives, Montenegro, Spain, Switzerland and Uruguay. The Secretary-General also sent requests for information on the implementation of the resolution to specialized agencies, United Nations funds and programmes, and civil society organizations. The Secretary-General received submissions from the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Coalition against Enforced Disappearances, Amnesty International and TRIAL (Swiss Association against Impunity). Their responses are summarized in the present report. The full text of the submissions is available on the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) at: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CED/Pages/SGReports.aspx.

II. Status of ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

3. As at 15 July 2013, 92 States have signed and 39 have ratified or acceded to the Convention; 15 States have recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by the State party of provisions of the Convention (article 31); and 16 States have recognized the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in which a State party claims that another State party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (article 32). Updated information on the status of ratification of the Convention may be found in the annex to the present report.

III. Second meeting of States parties to the Convention

A. Election of five members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances

4. In accordance with article 26, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the second meeting of States parties was convened by the Secretary-General on 28 May 2013 at United Nations Headquarters in New York to hold the election of 5 of the 10 members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. The meeting elected the following members: Mr. Mohammed Al-Obaidi (Iraq), Mr. Santiago Corcuera Cabezut (Mexico), Mr. Luciano Hazan (Argentina), Mr. Juan José López Ortega (Spain) and Mr. Kimio Yakushiji (Japan). The members assumed office on 1 July 2013.

B. Panel discussion on the implementation of the Convention: putting an end to enforced disappearance — progress and challenges

5. A panel discussion sponsored by Argentina, France and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on the theme "Putting an end to enforced disappearances — progress and challenges", was conducted under agenda item 6. The aim of the panel discussion was to raise the visibility and promote the ratification of the Convention as well as to assess the challenges still faced by States in ratifying and implementing it.

IV. Replies received from States

6. Summaries of the replies of States relating to the implementation of resolution 67/180 are provided below.

Argentina

[Original: Spanish]
[18 June 2013]

Argentina ratified the Convention on 14 December 2007 and recognized the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant to articles 31 and 32 respectively, on 11 June 2008. Argentina, together with France, has undertaken an active campaign to promote universal ratification of the Convention, including the acceptance of the full competence of the Committee. To this end, Argentina encourages States to ratify the Convention through the formulation of recommendations in the context of the universal periodic review as well as through its bilateral discussions with various States. Argentina has not requested any assistance relating to the Convention from United Nations organs or organizations.

Denmark

[Original: English]
[28 June 2013]

Denmark reported that it wishes to ratify the Convention and is currently examining the extent of legislative amendment to the Danish legislation required to meet the obligations under the Convention. Denmark will ratify the Convention when such amendments have been adopted and the Danish Parliament has given its consent. Denmark will consider the possibility of recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant to articles 31 and 32 respectively, after having completed a study of the legal implications. The study is expected to be completed at the time of ratification of the Convention. Denmark has not requested or received assistance from the United Nations agencies and organizations in this regard.

El Salvador

[Original: Spanish]
[26 June 2013]

El Salvador replied that it accepted the recommendations from its universal periodic review in 2010 to ratify several human rights treaties. Following this commitment, in 2011 El Salvador started consultations within different governmental institutions and with civil society on the ratification of the Convention. The process of consultations ended in January 2013 and resulted in a positive advice from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the President of the Republic to present a draft law concerning the Convention to the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Assembly received in April 2013 Executive Agreement No. 602-2013 of the President of the Republic to continue the process of ratification of the Convention.

Finland

[Original: English]
[13 June 2013]

Finland is planning to submit a Government Bill to the Parliament for ratification of the Convention so that it can enter into force for Finland in 2014, and is considering accepting the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

Greece

[Original: English]
[6 June 2013]

Greece reported that the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights is going to set up a law-drafting committee to elaborate a draft law ratifying the Convention.

Guatemala

[Original: Spanish]
[3 July 2013]

On 12 December 2007 the Executive Branch of Guatemala presented to the Congress of the Republic draft law 3736 recommending the ratification of the Convention: the draft law is currently pending in the Commission for Foreign Affairs at the Congress. The Guatemalan Coalition for the International Criminal Court, which includes the Presidential Commission for Government policy in human rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, plans to hold meetings with representatives of the Congress in 2013 to promote the ratification of the Convention. Guatemala will consider recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. Guatemala received technical assistance from OHCHR in Guatemala in the context of the Guatemalan Coalition for the International Criminal

Court and the Guatemalan Commission for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law.

Lebanon

[Original: Arabic]
[13 May 2013]

Lebanon responded that the Ministry of Justice had prepared a project aimed at creating an Independent National Commission on Enforced Disappeared and Missing Persons. The project was presented to the Council of Ministers for approval and it was agreed upon with some modifications. The amended text was sent again to the Council of Ministers, after consultations with non-governmental organizations, but because of the resignation of the Government its approval has been delayed. Once a new Government is formed, the project will be presented again.

Maldives

[Original: English]
[29 April 2013]

The Republic of Maldives reported that the Government has received the consent and confirmation of the Attorney-General's Office and the Ministry of Finance and Treasury to proceed with the ratification of the Convention. According to article 93 of the Constitution, all international legal instruments, treaties and conventions must receive the approval of the People's Majlis (Parliament) for the Government to ratify. The Government of Maldives is in the process of submitting the motion to Parliament, on or around 28 June 2013. The Government stated that it will recognize the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention, once the Parliament approves the ratification of the Convention and once it comes into force in the Republic of Maldives. The Government has not yet requested any assistance and did not receive any assistance from the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations agencies and organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations or the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. However, it is currently looking into areas where assistance might be required, especially in enacting domestic legislation, raising awareness and conducting programmes for relevant stakeholders.

Montenegro

[Original: English]
[21 May 2013]

Montenegro replied that it ratified the Convention on 22 June 2011 and accepted the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. Montenegro is currently drafting the report on the implementation of the Convention which will be submitted to the Committee within the prescribed deadline. Montenegro stated that its Constitution already includes several articles relevant to the implementation

of the Convention, such as article 17 on international agreements; articles 24 and 25 on regulated limitations of rights and freedoms during a state of war or emergency; article 28 on inviolability of the person and prohibition of torture; article 29 on individual liberty; articles 30 and 31 which regulate detention and criminal proceedings; article 37 on the right to defence; and article 56 on the right of recourse to international organizations for the protection of personal rights and freedoms. The Criminal Code of Montenegro also stipulates the criminal offences of unlawful deprivation of liberty (article 162), abduction (article 164) and coercion (article 165) and a series of crimes against humanity (articles 426 to 449a). The Criminal Procedure Code and the Law on the Execution of Criminal Sanctions also include provisions for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Spain

[Original: Spanish]
[22 May 2013]

Spain ratified the Convention on 14 July 2009 and accepted the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention, on 5 January 2011. It submitted its report on the implementation of the Convention to the Committee on 26 December 2012. The Government of Spain has always collaborated, as solicited, with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and will receive a visit of the Working Group in September 2013.

Switzerland

[Original: French]
[6 June 2013]

Switzerland signed the Convention on 19 January 2011. The adoption of the message concerning the ratification of the Convention and its transmission to the Parliament is one of the objectives of the Federal Council in 2013. The process for its ratification is under way and the federal offices concerned are examining the consequences that the Convention could have for national law, which may require some modifications. The consultations with stakeholders, on the ratification of the Convention and the legislative revisions, ended on 8 April 2013 and allowed civil society to express its opinion on the implementation of the Convention.

Uruguay

[Original: Spanish]
[11 June 2013]

Uruguay ratified the Convention on 8 December 2008 and accepted the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant respectively to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. Uruguay has not availed itself of technical cooperation during the process of ratification of the Convention. Uruguay maintained an open attitude with the United Nations, OHCHR and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, collaborating in particular

with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. Uruguay stated that, in the context of the reform of the penitentiary system, and with the support of OHCHR, training on the Convention was included in the induction courses for new civilian operators. Uruguay singled out the fact that it was the first State party to submit its report, within the deadline, to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances and for this was praised by the Committee itself.

V. Activities of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

7. In paragraph 4 of resolution 67/180, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue their intensive efforts to assist States in becoming parties to the Convention, with a view to achieving universal adherence.

8. Since the adoption of the Convention, on a number of occasions the Secretary-General has called upon States to ratify this instrument (see for example A/67/267). Most recently, on 28 May 2013, on the occasion of the inauguration of the exhibit "Absence", on the enforced disappearances perpetrated in Argentina and the consequences for the families of the victims, the Secretary-General once again urged States to ratify the Convention.

9. The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance has been highlighted during all treaty-related events organized by the United Nations in New York since 2007, to promote its accession, ratification and implementation.

10. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has taken a series of steps to promote the implementation of resolution 67/180. OHCHR pursues its efforts in the fight against enforced disappearance and to achieve universal ratification of the Convention under the thematic priorities of "violence and insecurity" and "support for human rights mechanisms" as set out in the Office management plan for 2012-2013. Much of this focuses on supporting States' efforts to ratify the Convention but also extends to the provision of training and capacity-building to States and civil society, as well as awareness-raising about the Convention.

11. In relation to promoting ratification, the High Commissioner systematically encourages Member States to ratify human rights instruments generally and has supported ratification in several countries. The High Commissioner personally encouraged ratification of the Convention during her missions to Algeria in September 2012 and Indonesia in November 2012.

12. The OHCHR country office in Mauritania assisted the Government of the country in initiating consultations with a view to ratifying the Convention. Mauritania ratified the Convention on 3 October 2012.

13. The OHCHR Regional Office for South America explicitly set the ratification of the Convention by Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) as one of its goals during the reporting period. Peru accessed the Convention on 26 September 2012.

14. The OHCHR country office in Guatemala continued its efforts to encourage the Government to ratify the Convention. The office has supported monthly meetings of civil society and victims' organizations to promote ratification.

15. In addition to supporting States in ratifying the Convention, OHCHR has been assisting States and civil society organizations through training, capacity-building and awareness-raising.

16. The OHCHR country office in Mexico provided technical assistance to the State of Nuevo Leon throughout the legislative processes which resulted in the introduction of the crime of enforced disappearance in the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code of the State in November 2012; the OHCHR country office in Mexico issued a press release in this regard.

17. The OHCHR Regional Office in South America provided technical assistance to Uruguay in the context of the reform of the penitentiary system and delivered training on the Convention which was included as a module in the induction courses for new civilian operators. The Regional Office authored an extended web story on enforced disappearances, a shorter version of which was published on the global OHCHR website in August 2012.

18. On the occasion of the second International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, on 30 August 2012, OHCHR organized a media campaign through conventional media and social networks such as Facebook, Google+ and Twitter. OHCHR headquarters and field offices disseminated the press release, which the Committee issued jointly with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, in English, French and Spanish, together with the text of the Convention and a photograph album. The campaign included a call to all readers to lobby for their respective Governments to ratify the Convention.

19. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture has awarded grants to a number of non-governmental entities providing assistance to families of victims of enforced disappearances and/or documenting cases of enforced disappearance in line with the relevant provisions of the Convention. In particular, the Fund supported two emergency projects, one in Guatemala and one in Uruguay, providing psychological support to victims of gross human rights violations, including torture and enforced disappearance, bearing witness in the historic trials conducted in both countries. In Argentina, another assistance project continues to be supported by the Fund with the aim of providing psychological assistance to victims during ongoing trials for torture and enforced disappearance of former military and police personnel of the former military regime.

VI. Activities of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances

20. During the reporting period the Committee took several steps to promote the Convention. On 30 August 2012 the Committee and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances issued a joint public statement on the occasion of the second International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, in which experts of the two bodies reminded States to continue promoting and giving full effect to the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as well as to the Convention. The experts also called upon all States clearly to commit themselves to eradicating enforced disappearance and to ratify the Convention in order to attain its universal ratification so that the right not to be subjected to enforced disappearance becomes a reality.

21. The Chair of the Committee, in opening statements at the third and fourth sessions, held from 29 October to 9 November 2012 and from 8 to 19 April 2013 respectively, emphasized the need for universal ratification and the importance of working with States parties, signatories and all Member States, as they have the primary responsibility to implement and enforce the Convention.

22. The Committee held its second meeting with the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances on 1 November 2013. In a joint statement the experts of the two mechanisms reaffirmed their willingness to develop strategies to continue promoting and giving full effect to the Declaration and the Convention. Experts also agreed on the need to work collectively in achieving universal adherence to the Convention and recognition of the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions, respectively under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

23. The Committee met twice with Member States at public meetings, on 5 November 2012 and 8 April 2013. The Committee invited the States parties to the Convention to submit their reports as early as possible. It also encouraged States which have not yet done so to ratify the Convention and/or accept the competence of the Committee to consider individual communications. Recalling that article 4 of the Convention requires States parties to criminalize enforced disappearance, the Committee encouraged States parties to amend their national laws accordingly. The Chair updated the States on the work of the Committee.

24. On 5 November 2012 and 8 April 2013, the Committee also held public meetings with representatives of United Nations agencies and other mechanisms, intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions, in which representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Council of Europe, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights participated. The participants stressed the importance of the Convention as a tool to prevent enforced disappearance and fight impunity.

25. The Committee also met, on 5 November 2012 and 8 April 2013, with representatives of 12 non-governmental organizations and associations of victims to discuss general matters relating to the promotion and implementation of the Convention. The Committee welcomed the support of the non-governmental organizations for the Convention and underlined the importance of close cooperation in raising awareness about it.

26. During its third session, the Committee held three thematic discussions at closed meetings. It continued a discussion on the responsibility of States and the role of non-State actors, and held two new discussions, one concerning trafficking and enforced disappearance and another on the principle of non-refoulement, expulsion and extradition under article 16 of the Convention. The choice of those subjects demonstrates the Committee's willingness and determination to apply the Convention in the light of a broader viewpoint and with a strong victim perspective, as requested in the Convention itself.

27. On 14 May 2013, the Committee, through the Secretariat, sent a reminder to all States parties whose reports were overdue to encourage a prompt submission and sent again the guidelines on the form and content of reports under article 29 to be

submitted by States parties to the Convention (CED/C/2), to support them in their obligation.

28. The Committee continues to discuss a strategy to encourage States to ratify the Convention and accept the optional mechanisms under articles 31 and 32, recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State petitions. To this effect, the members of the Committee agreed to organize and participate in activities in their regions to disseminate the Convention and information about the Committee's protective functions.

VII. Activities of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

29. Since its inception, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances has transmitted more than 53,986 individual cases to Governments in more than 90 States. The number of cases under active consideration that have not yet been clarified, closed or discontinued stands at 42,899 and concerns 84 States. The Working Group has been able to clarify 298 cases over the past five years.

30. On 18 December 2012, the Working Group issued a public statement on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in which it emphasized that all States should take immediate action to demonstrate their resolve against enforced disappearance, including signing and ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

31. In its annual report to the Human Rights Council for 2012 (A/HRC/22/45 and Corr.1, para. 76), the Working Group once again called upon States that had not signed and/or ratified the Convention to do so, and to accept the competence of the Committee to receive individual and inter-State communications pursuant to articles 31 and 32. This recommendation was reiterated in the statement of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group when presenting the report before the Human Rights Council, on 5 March 2013. The Working Group also stressed in the report that, as for many other thematic human rights issues such as torture, racial discrimination, discrimination against women, the rights of the child and a series of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, the Committee and the Working Group coexist side by side, cooperating in the fight to prevent and eradicate enforced disappearances wherever they occur around the world. In the same vein, the Declaration and the Convention reinforce each other to create a more effective legal framework to confront the practice of enforced disappearance (ibid., para. 83).

32. In its general comment on children and enforced disappearances adopted at its ninety-eighth session (31 October-9 November 2012), the Working Group indicated that the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its three Optional Protocols, the relevant Hague Conventions and all relevant international and regional instruments would contribute to an effective child protection framework against enforced disappearances. The Working Group encouraged States to ratify those instruments (A/HRC/WGEID/98/1 and Corr.1, para. 47).

33. In its report on its mission to Pakistan, undertaken from 10 to 20 September 2010, the Working Group called on the Government to ratify the Convention and to recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to consider individual and inter-State petitions, pursuant to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention (A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 89 (a)). The Working Group also recommended that a new and autonomous crime of enforced disappearances should be included in the Criminal Code following the definition given in the Convention and with all the legal consequences flowing from this qualification (ibid., para. 96 (a)).

34. In its follow-up report on its visit to Morocco, the Working Group welcomed the launch of the ratification process of the Convention (A/HRC/22/45/Add.3, para. 15).

35. The Working Group uses every opportunity to promote the ratification of the Convention, including during visits undertaken to different States and bilateral meetings held with its representatives.

VIII. Activities of United Nations agencies and organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

36. A number of United Nations agencies and organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have undertaken great efforts at the national, regional and universal levels to disseminate information on the Convention, promote understanding of it, prepare for its entry into force and assist States parties in implementing their obligations under this instrument.

37. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) promotes and encourages the ratification and implementation of the Convention through its Advisory Service and offers tailor-made specialist legal advice and technical support to national authorities, upon their request, when incorporating into national law their obligations to prevent disappearances and to account for the missing. To this end, ICRC facilitates the exchange of experiences among competent authorities by collecting national laws and case law for their inclusion into a public electronic database. It also developed guiding principles and a model law on the missing designed to facilitate legislation to prevent persons from going missing and to protect the rights and interests of the missing and their families. The model law stresses the importance of national authorities adopting legislation to ensure that the crime of enforced disappearance is criminalized under domestic law and that criminal proceedings can be initiated by the missing person or his/her legal representative(s), family members, interested parties or the State authority. While drawing attention to the plight of missing persons and their families, ICRC also promotes the need to become a party to and implement the Convention, through its website and promotional activities. ICRC delivered statements at the second and fourth sessions of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances and participated in a private discussion with the Committee on forensic issues in October 2013. Finally, it participated in an event organized during the second meeting of States parties to the Convention in May 2013 in New York.

38. Regarding civil society, Amnesty International regularly provides country-related and other information to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to support its work in monitoring State compliance and promoting implementation of the Convention, including in relation to the Committee's consideration of State

reports under article 29.1 of the Convention. Amnesty International translated the checklist entitled "No impunity for enforced disappearances", which provides guidelines to States parties on how to implement in law and practice their obligations under the Convention, also into Chinese and Indonesian. Amnesty International also publishes various advocacy and press materials, both thematic and country-related, raising awareness on the Convention. It regularly urges the authorities of the States to ratify the Convention, without any reservation, and recognize the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

39. The International Coalition against Enforced Disappearances, which comprises 41 non-governmental organizations in Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Euro-Mediterranean region and the United States, has performed, through its focal points, an important number of activities to promote the ratification of the Convention and the recognition of the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to accept petitions under articles 31 and 32. These include sending letters to Governments of different countries, within the "country of the month" campaign strategy; coordinating national campaigns; participating in conferences, dialogues and forums all over the world; publishing quarterly e-news, commemorating the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances (30 August), the International Week of the Disappeared, and International Human Rights Week, culminating in Human Rights Day.

40. TRIAL (Swiss Association against Impunity), which is a member of the International Coalition against Enforced Disappearances, monitored the process of the ratification of the Convention and the acceptance of the competence of the Committee in several countries, with particular emphasis during the reporting period on Bosnia and Herzegovina and Switzerland. TRIAL assisted countries such as Iraq in the implementation of the Convention, through participation in international conferences and the publication of targeted recommendations. TRIAL regularly provides information to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to support its work in monitoring State compliance and promoting the implementation of the Convention, including in relation to the Committee's consideration of State reports under article 29.1 of the Convention. TRIAL raised the ratification and implementation of the Convention and the relevant States' obligations in a number of alternative reports to the various United Nations committees and in the litigation of cases of enforced disappearance before the European Court of Human Rights and the Human Rights Committee.

Annex

States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as at 15 July 2013

Participant	*Signature*	*Accession or ratification*
Albania[a]	6 February 2007	8 November 2007
Algeria	6 February 2007	
Argentina[a]	6 February 2007	14 December 2007
Armenia	10 April 2007	24 January 2011
Austria[a]	6 February 2007	7 June 2012
Azerbaijan	6 February 2007	
Belgium[a]	6 February 2007	2 June 2011
Benin	19 March 2010	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	6 February 2007	17 December 2008
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6 February 2007	30 March 2012
Brazil	6 February 2007	29 November 2010
Bulgaria	24 September 2008	
Burkina Faso	6 February 2007	3 December 2009
Burundi	6 February 2007	
Cambodia		27 June 2013[b]
Cameroon	6 February 2007	
Cape Verde	6 February 2007	
Chad	6 February 2007	
Chile[a]	6 February 2007	8 December 2009
Colombia	27 September 2007	11 July 2012
Comoros	6 February 2007	
Congo	6 February 2007	
Costa Rica	6 February 2007	16 February 2012
Croatia	6 February 2007	
Cuba[a]	6 February 2007	2 February 2009

Participant	*Signature*	*Accession or ratification*
Cyprus	6 February 2007	
Denmark	25 September 2007	
Ecuador[a]	24 May 2007	20 October 2009
Finland	6 February 2007	
France[a]	6 February 2007	23 September 2008
Gabon	25 September 2007	19 January 2011
Germany[a]	26 September 2007	24 September 2009
Ghana	6 February 2007	
Greece	1 October 2008	
Grenada	6 February 2007	
Guatemala	6 February 2007	
Haiti	6 February 2007	
Honduras	6 February 2007	1 April 2008
Iceland	1 October 2008	
India	6 February 2007	
Indonesia	27 September 2010	
Iraq		23 November 2010[b]
Ireland	29 March 2007	
Italy	3 July 2007	
Japan[a]	6 February 2007	23 July 2009
Kazakhstan		27 February 2009[b]
Kenya	6 February 2007	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	29 September 2008	
Lebanon	6 February 2007	
Lesotho	22 September 2010	
Liechtenstein	1 October 2007	
Lithuania	6 February 2007	
Luxembourg	6 February 2007	
Madagascar	6 February 2007	

Participant	*Signature*	*Accession or ratification*
Maldives	6 February 2007	
Mali[a]	6 February 2007	1 July 2009
Malta	6 February 2007	
Mauritania	27 September 2011	3 October 2012
Mexico	6 February 2007	18 March 2008
Monaco	6 February 2007	
Mongolia	6 February 2007	
Montenegro[a]	6 February 2007	20 September 2011
Morocco	6 February 2007	14 May 2013
Mozambique	24 December 2008	
Netherlands	29 April 2008	23 March 2011
Niger	6 February 2007	
Nigeria		27 July 2009[b]
Norway	21 December 2007	
Palau	20 September 2011	
Panama	25 September 2007	24 June 2011
Paraguay	6 February 2007	3 August 2010
Peru		26 September 2012
Poland	25 June 2013	
Portugal	6 February 2007	
Republic of Moldova	6 February 2007	
Romania	3 December 2008	
Samoa	6 February 2007	27 November 2012
Senegal	6 February 2007	11 December 2008
Serbia[a]	6 February 2007	18 May 2011
Sierra Leone	6 February 2007	
Slovakia	26 September 2007	
Slovenia	26 September 2007	
Spain[a]	27 September 2007	24 September 2009

Participant	*Signature*	*Accession or ratification*
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	29 March 2010	
Swaziland	25 September 2007	
Sweden	6 February 2007	
Switzerland	19 January 2011	
Thailand	9 January 2012	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	6 February 2007	
Togo	27 October 2010	
Tunisia	6 February 2007	29 June 2011
Uganda	6 February 2007	
United Republic of Tanzania	29 September 2008	
Uruguay[a]	6 February 2007	4 March 2009
Vanuatu	6 February 2007	
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)[a]	21 October 2008	
Zambia	27 September 2010	4 April 2011

[a] States that have made declarations recognizing the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and/or 32 of the Convention. The full text of the declarations and reservations made by States parties can be found at http://treaties.un.org.

[b] Accession.